

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 2, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 120

Introduced by Senator De León

(Coauthors: Senators Vidak and Walters)

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Buchanan, Hall, Maienschein,
Mansoor, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk-Silva, and Rodriguez)*

May 14, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 120—Relative to Year of the Community.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 120, as amended, De León. Year of the Community: developmental disabilities.

This measure would proclaim the year of 2014 as the “Year of the Community,” and would declare that the Legislature will actively promote the rights of persons with developmental disabilities and their full inclusion into community life.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Forty-five years ago, the State of California enacted
2 the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, a bold
3 new direction in public-private partnership that fundamentally
4 changed and dramatically improved the quality of life for people
5 with developmental disabilities and their families and that would
6 become a model for the nation; and

7 WHEREAS, The vision to enable people with developmental
8 disabilities to live full, productive, and satisfying lives as active
9 members of their communities was embodied in a statewide

1 network of community-based services and supports with regional
2 centers playing the role of the coordinating hub; and

3 WHEREAS, California's first pilot regional centers for
4 delivering services *and supports* to persons with developmental
5 disabilities, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and San Francisco
6 Aid for Retarded Children, ~~which opened~~ *were established* in 1966,
7 ~~marked~~ *marking* the beginning of the regional center system; and

8 WHEREAS, By their achievements, the pilot centers proved
9 the merit of the regional center concept and led to the introduction
10 of Assembly Bill No. 225 in 1969, which enacted the Lanterman
11 Mental Retardation Services Act of 1969, which is currently known
12 as the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act
13 (hereafter Lanterman Act), and which established the statewide
14 system of services for persons with developmental disabilities;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The statewide system was designed to be organized
17 at the regional level and to produce a dynamic network of local
18 services and supports; and

19 WHEREAS, The increased availability of services *and supports*
20 in the community precipitated the state's shift from nearly total
21 reliance on large state institutions to a regional service system in
22 which more than 99 percent of children and adults with
23 developmental disabilities receive all of their needed services and
24 supports in the community; and

25 WHEREAS, The regional center system was intended to provide
26 *individuals with developmental disabilities with* services and
27 ~~supports to individuals with developmental disabilities~~ that are
28 innovative and cost effective, that result in growth and
29 development, that improve the quality of life, and that support
30 inclusion into community life; and

31 WHEREAS, During the decades following the passage of the
32 Lanterman Act, the service system's evolution was enabled by
33 advances in knowledge and technology and by the increasing
34 recognition of the right of people with disabilities to choice and
35 full participation in society, including the rights of children to live
36 at home with their families; and

37 WHEREAS, The 21 regional centers in California continue to
38 expand and diversify their services while serving over 265,000
39 persons with developmental disabilities and their families; and

1 WHEREAS, The service system has grown increasingly
2 complex, requirements for service providers have grown in
3 sophistication, and expectations for services have become more
4 rigorous due to advances in knowledge and technology; and

5 WHEREAS, The 45th anniversary of the signing of the
6 Lanterman Act is an appropriate time to reaffirm our commitment
7 to the act, and renew our investment in the community system;
8 now, therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
10 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the year
11 of 2014 as the “Year of the Community” and the beginning of a
12 decade of renewed commitment to both the vision of the Lanterman
13 Act and the investments needed to ensure a sustainable future for
14 California’s community service system; and be it further

15 *Resolved*, That the Legislature will actively promote the rights
16 of people with developmental disabilities and their full inclusion
17 into community life in California; and be it further

18 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
19 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.